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23 June 2015

To: Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and Chief Executives of OERu partners.

Invitation: 3rd meeting of the OERu Council of Chief Executive Officers

The [OER universitas](#) (OERu) is an international consortium of “like-minded” institutions from six major regions of the world who through their community service agendas, are widening access to more affordable education opportunities for learners excluded from the formal sector using open education approaches. The OERu model also shows considerable potential for new business models associated with disaggregated services, micro Open Online Courses and micro credentials.

The **OERu Council of Chief Executive Officers** was established in 2013 and functions as an assembly of senior leaders called together for consultation, deliberation and discussion on strategic OERu futures.

I'm writing today to extend a formal invitation to the Vice Chancellors, Presidents and Chief Executive Officers of the OERu partners (or their senior leader nominees) to attend the **3rd meeting of the OERu Council of Chief Executive Officers** on the morning of 9 October 2015 to be hosted by North-West University at our conference centre in Vanderbijlpark in South Africa.

The meeting of Chief Executive's meeting will follow the 2015 annual OERu partners meeting on 7 and 8 October 2015. The meeting has been scheduled to coincide with the 26th ICDE world conference and ICDE President's meeting the following week for those travelling to Africa for those events. Details relating to these events are provided in Annexure B.

During the meeting, we will:

- Review progress with the implementation of the OERu Strategic Plan 2015 – 2017 approved at the previous meeting of the OERu Council of CEOs;
- Consider and approve recommendations arising from the 2015 meeting of OERu partners; and
- Discuss open business models prepared for consideration by the Council.

We have published a website for the OERu 2015 meetings which provides suggestions for transport and accommodation: <http://meetings.oeru.org/>

Please RSVP by completing the online registration form (<https://goo.gl/n4vLFX>) by **31 August 2015**, or by sending an email directly to Wayne Mackintosh, Director of the OER Foundation and UNESCO-COL Chair in OER, wayne@oerfoundation.org.

I look forward to welcoming you personally to South Africa for the first series of OERu meetings to be hosted on the Continent.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Oosthuizen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Prof Martin Oosthuizen
Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Teaching-Learning
North West University
Vice-Chair, Executive Committee of the OERu Council of Chief Executive Officers.

The [OERu](#) is an international innovation partnership of universities, polytechnics, community colleges and non-teaching agencies who are widening access to more affordable education opportunities using open education approaches. The OERu is also an official project of the UNESCO-COL OER chair network. The OERu philanthropic network draws its strength from our international diversity with thirty three partner institutions from six global regions.

Africa

[University of South Africa](#) (South Africa)
[National Open University of Nigeria](#) (Nigeria)
[North-West University](#) (South Africa)

Asia

[S.N.D.T Women's University](#) (India)

Europe

[Institute of Technology Sligo](#) (Ireland)
[Open University of Catalonia](#) (Spain)
[The Open University](#) (United Kingdom)
[University of South Wales](#) (United Kingdom)
[University of the Highlands and Islands](#) (United Kingdom)

Middle East

[Hamdan Bin Mohammed Smart University](#) (United Arab Emirates)

North America

[Athabasca University](#) (Canada)
[BCcampus](#) (Non teaching partner – Canada)
[Contact North | Contact Nord](#) (Non teaching partner – Canada)
[eCampusAlberta](#) (Non teaching partner - Canada)
[Excelsior College](#) (USA)
[Kwantlen Polytechnic University](#) (Canada)
[Portage College](#) (Canada)
[Southern New Hampshire University](#) (USA)
[Thompson Rivers University](#) (Canada)
[Thomas Edison State College](#) (USA)

Oceania

[Ako Aotearoa](#) (Non teaching partner – New Zealand)
[Charles Sturt University](#) (Australia)
[Curtin University](#) (Australia)
[NorthTec](#) (New Zealand)
[OER Foundation](#) (Non teaching partner - New Zealand)
[Otago Polytechnic](#) (New Zealand)
[Unitec Institute of Technology](#) (New Zealand)

[University of Canberra](#) (Australia)

[University of Southern Queensland](#) (Australia)

[University of the South Pacific](#) (Regional University - 12 Pacific Island States)

[University of Tasmania](#) (Australia)

[University of Wollongong](#) (Australia)

[Waikato Institute of Technology](#) (New Zealand)

International sponsors

Commonwealth of Learning

UNESCO-COL OER Chair network.



1. OERu 14.09 Planning consultation (Online SCOPE planning seminar)	
When	September (Dates to be confirmed)
Where	Online
Who	Open community, interested people and staff from OERu anchor partners
Purpose	Discussions to inform the meeting agendas and prepare inputs for the 4 th international meeting of OERu partners.
Hosts	BCcampus and OER Foundation

2. OERu 15.10 International meeting of OERu partners	
When	7 and 8 October 2015 (All day meetings)
Where	Quest Conference Estate, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa
Who	Staff, Managers and Chief Executives from OERu partner institutions
Purpose	4 th meeting of OERu partners to discuss OERu strategy, progress and future operations.
Host	North-West University, South Africa.
Website	http://meetings.oeru.org/

3. 3rd meeting of the OERu Council of Chief Executive Officers	
When	9 October 2015 (9:00am to 2:00pm)
Where	Quest Conference Estate, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa
Who	Vice Chancellors, Presidents and Chief Executives of OERu anchor partners (or senior leader nominees).
Purpose	Review implementation of the OERu Strategic Plan 2015 – 2017 Discuss open business models for OERu partner institutions
Host	Professor Martin Oosthuizen, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Teaching-Learning, North-West University

ICDE Events

1. [26th ICDE World Conference](#), 13 – 16 October 2015, Sun City, South Africa
2. [ICDE Presidents' Summit 2015](#), 14 – 16 October 2015, Sun City, South Africa